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Government Hospital, Cannanore.

* 954 *Q.*—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any report from the authorities of the Government Hospital, Cannanore, to increase the bed-strength there and what steps have been taken by the Government in the matter;

(*b*) the bed-strength of the new shed attached to the Government Hospital, Cannanore;

(*c*) the amount spent for thatching the shed last year;

(*d*) whether the Government have any proposal to extend the supply of electricity to the Nurses' quarters attached to the hospital; and

(*e*) if not, why?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" (*a*) Yes, Sir. The proposals had however to be deferred on account of financial stringency.

" (*b*) 32, Sir.

" (*c*) Rs. 488, Sir.

" (*d*) & (*e*) The proposal when received, will be considered on merits."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR:—" As the nurses have to go to and return from the hospital during night-time also, will the Hon. Minister expedite the extension of electricity to the nurses' quarters?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" I appreciate the hon. Member's interest in providing amenities for nurses. There was a proposal for extending electricity, but it was deferred on account of the need for economy in expenditure."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN:—" Regarding the increase of bed-strength in the Cannanore Hospital, the Hon. Minister has said so many times that he will consider the matter. May I know how long it will take to complete the consideration?"

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY:—" The same question is put within short intervals and so the same answer has to be given."

Auctioning of the fisheries right in the Nellipallam Eri, Venmankondan village, Udayarpalayam taluk.

* 955 *Q.*—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the fisheries right in Nellipallam Eri in Venmankondan village, Udayarpalayam taluk, was auctioned in the year 1952;

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(b) if so, whether the auction was confirmed by the Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Yes.

" (b) No.

" (c) The sale was not confirmed as some of the ryots objected to the lease of the fisheries claiming full enjoyment over the tank. The question of right over the tank is being examined by the Board of Revenue in consultation with the Government Pleader, Madras."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" May I know how long it will take to complete the examination of the right of these people over the tank? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" As soon as the opinion of the Government Pleader is received, we will take a decision."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I know whether the Government have issued any direction that the lease of tanks for fishing purposes should be given exclusively to fishermen co-operative societies? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would like to have notice."

Present debt position of Madras State.

* 956 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—" As the hon. Member who has given notice of the question is not present, the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI N. GOPALA MENON : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the present debt position of the Madras State regarding—

(i) open market loans,

(ii) loans from the Central Government, and

(iii) the approximate amount payable as interest on the loans per year?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The outstanding debt of the Composite State of Madras as on 30th September 1953 has not yet been allocated between the Governments of Andhra, Madras and Mysore, in accordance with the provisions in the Andhra State Act, 1953. Based on a rough allocation with reference to the population ratio, the share of Madras in the outstanding debt of the Composite State on 30th September 1953 is expected to be about Rs. 57½ crores.